

## Hymns and Holy Scripture Readings

### **Apolytikion for Palm Sunday in the First Mode**

In confirming the common Resurrection, O Christ God, Thou didst raise up Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion. Wherefore, we also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to Thee, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

### **Apolytikion for Palm Sunday in the Fourth Mode**

As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

### **Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Second Mode**

In Heaven, He is seated upon a Throne and on earth He rides upon a foal. O Christ our God, accept the praise of the Angels and the hymn of the Children who cry out to You, "Blessed are You who comes to recall Adam."

### **The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9.**

BRETHREN, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

### **The Gospel of John 12:1-18**

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros was one of those at table with Him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples (he who was to betray Him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me."

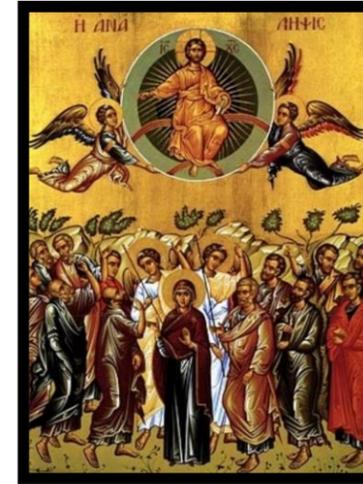
When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazaros, whom He had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazaros also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazaros out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign.



On behalf of Fr. Sotirios Malamis, the Parish Council and the Ascension of Our Lord Parish Family, we wish you a blessed and merciful Holy Week. Please join us for our services this week as we walk with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during His Passion and ultimately experience His life-giving Resurrection.

## Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN April 9 – 23, 2017

### Welcome To Our Visitors

**WE ARE GLAD you joined us in worship today.** We hope your visit to Ascension was memorable and meaningful in every way. Our doors and hearts are always open to you. Please join us for fellowship following the Divine Liturgy and visit with Fr. Sotiri and with members of the Parish Council. They will answer questions and provide you with information regarding the programs and life at the Ascension.

### Spiritual Reflection

*Because all their kings had mostly been unjust and covetous and subjected them to wars ... he said to them, 'Trust me, I am not like them. I am gentle and mild.' He demonstrated this by the manner of his entrance, not entering at the head of an army but simply riding on a donkey.*

**St. John Chrysostom**

### Holy Communion Etiquette

+ If you are either baptized and/or confirmed as an Orthodox Christian and have spiritually prepared to receive Holy Communion, please come up with reverence and humility, row by row, and depart as directed by the ushers. Please remain in your rows until an usher indicates your row should move forward. If you are standing in the back of the nave, please wait until an usher directs you.

+ Prior to receiving Holy Communion, we will recite together the *Prayers Before Receiving Holy Communion* on page 61 in the Divine Liturgy book found in the pew. Following Holy Communion, it is customary for the faithful to silently recite the *Prayers of Thanksgiving*, on page 73.

+ In receiving Communion, you should place the cloth under your chin, recite your CHRISTIAN NAME, and wipe your mouth after receiving. If you are wearing lipstick please remove it prior to receiving Communion.

+ Whether you are an Orthodox Christian or not, please come forward at the dismissal to receive the blessed bread which is offered to everyone who worships with us. May the blessings of Christ be with you.

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.  7 p.m.	<b>April 9</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy with Procession and Blessing of the Palms Philoptochos Bake Sale Service of the NYMPHIOS (Bridegroom)	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
<b>Monday</b> 8:30 a.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 10</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy Service of the NYMPHIOS (Bridegroom)	<b>Holy Monday</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 a.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 11</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy Service of the NYMPHIOS (Bridegroom) (Hymn of Kassiani)	<b>Holy Tuesday</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 a.m. 3 p.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 12</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy The Sacrament of Holy Unction Holy Thursday Matins (The Anointing of the Faithful with Holy Unction following Services)	<b>Holy Wednesday</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 7 a.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 13</b> Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper The Reading of the 12 Gospels and Procession of the Crucified Christ	<b>Holy Thursday</b>
<b>Friday</b> 8 a.m. 3 p.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 14</b> Royal Hours Apokathelosis Service (Un-nailing of Christ from the Cross) Service of the Lamentations	<b>Good Friday</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 8 a.m. 10:45 p.m.	<b>April 15</b> Proti-Anastasi (Vespertine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great) Resurrection Service and Paschal Divine Liturgy (Paschal Fellowship – following Services)	<b>Holy Saturday</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 11 a.m.	<b>April 16</b> AGAPE Vespers	<b>Holy Pascha</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 4:45 p.m.	<b>April 18</b> Orthros Divine Liturgy Greek School	<b>Bright Tuesday / SS Raphael, Nicholas, &amp; Irene</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 6:15 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	<b>April 20</b> Adult Intermediate/Advanced Greek School Adult Beginner Greek School	<b>Bright Thursday</b>
<b>Friday</b> 9 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>April 21</b> <i>Services will be held at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center</i> GOYA Pascha Greek Night	<b>Bright Friday / Theotokos of the Life-Giving Font</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 10 a.m. 7 p.m.	<b>April 22</b> Philoptochos <i>Fill the Bag</i> Lenten Project Great Vespers, St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Chicago	<b>Bright Saturday</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	<b>April 23</b> Orthros Sunday Church School Divine Liturgy	<b>Sunday of Thomas St. George the Great Martyr</b>

+ **WE THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY FOR ALL DONATIONS** made for our Great Lent and Holy Week. May God bless you and your families for the devotion you show to our beloved Parish.

+ **THE HOLY WEEK SERVICE BOOK** is available for purchase from the bookstore for \$25. New this year is a large print version for \$50. Please visit us after Liturgy today.

+ **ATTENTION SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL STUDENTS: PLEASE BRING YOUR OCMC COIN BOXES** to church by Good Friday.

## Our Sunday Volunteers

**Prosphora:** Maria Karalis & Elaine Metropoulos

**Epistle Reader:** Nick Papastratakos

**Ministry Greeter:** Elaine Stevens

**Ushers:** Peter Venetos, UIC, Tom

Papastefan, Bill Athenson, Tom

Kiriakos, Carol Stamas, Bob

Mantzoros, Mia Connolly, Diane

Sigalos, Andrea Rogers, David

Rutkowski

## Prayer Requests for Health

**PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PERSONAL PRAYERS** the servants of God: Georgia, John, Eleni, George, Nicholas, Christine, Christy, Louise, Anastasia, Stella, Mitchell, Joanne, Panagiotis, Christina, Helen, James, Sophia, Connie, Janet, Anthony

## Condolences

Our dear brother in Christ, George Mussie, fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. We extend our deepest sympathies to his daughters, Vicky (Warren) Petersen and Kristina (Anthony Fredrick) Chapekis. The funeral was held at Ascension on Thursday, March 30, 2017. We pray that God grant George eternal rest in the Kingdom of Heaven and comfort to his family. May his memory be eternal.



## Announcements

+ **THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE** has identified additional major donor naming opportunities and has re-worked others: the foyer (\$150,000), the gallery (\$150,000), and the community center stage (\$50,000). These, together with our remaining major donor naming opportunities, which include the Nave (\$500,000), the kitchen (\$250,000), landscaping (\$150,000), and a classroom (\$75,000), are now shown on an updated board located in the Narthex. Also, our other remaining donation opportunities are Pews (\$10,000), but there are only five Pews yet to be donated, and Personalized Brick Pavers (\$1,000). Please act fast as we are now approximately 83% of the way to our goal of remaining debt-free and building without any borrowing. If you would like to avail yourself of one of the remaining major donor naming opportunities or to donate towards any of these other remaining Donation Opportunities, please contact Fr. Sotirios in the church office at 847-482-1200 or email him at [frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com](mailto:frsotirios@ascensiongoc.com).

+ **STEWARDSHIP** Stewardship is recognizing the amazing wonder and power of grace that we did not deserve. It is the attitude of gratitude, of being thankful in all things, even when we do not feel the gratitude or see it. To date, the total pledged for Ascension in 2017 is \$260,984 by 199 families. If you have not submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so today!

+ **THE PASCHA BAKE SALE IS TODAY!** Please stop by our tables immediately after the Divine Liturgy and select treats for your Paschal celebration. Pre-orders may also be picked up today. Once again, we thank you for your generosity and appreciate your continued support!

+ **JOY/JR. GOYA EASTER PLANT SALE** – Plants are ready for pick-up TODAY - Palm Sunday, following services. They will be in the back Sunday School classroom, behind the kitchen. Thank you to all who supported this ministry!

+ **RED EGGS:** If you volunteered to dye two dozen hardboiled eggs red for our parish Paschal celebration, please bring them to church Holy Thursday, or first thing Good Friday morning. Thank you for your generosity and time!

+ **PARKING AND FREE SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE DURING HOLY WEEK SERVICES:** With regard to overflow parking for the **Sacrament of Holy Unction service on Holy Wednesday afternoon**: we will NOT be able to park in the Administration Lot (north lot) at Daniel Wright School. Instead, our neighbor, Banner Day Camp, graciously has agreed to let us use its lot for overflow parking that afternoon. We have arranged a free shuttle bus to take overflow parkers back and forth from the Banner Day parking lot and the church during and after the Holy Wednesday afternoon service. **On Palm Sunday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday evenings**, a complimentary shuttle bus will transport parkers between Ascension and Daniel Wright School, which is just ¼ mile south of the Church. If our lot is full on Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday evenings, please park in the Administration Lot (north lot) at Daniel Wright School and take advantage of the free shuttle bus service. **Parking on our fire lane and in the church driveway is illegal, and the entrance to the Church parking lot is designated as a no parking zone.** Emergency vehicles must be able to enter the Church without obstructions. Police will ticket illegally parked cars. Double-parking in the parking lot is also prohibited. We further request that you avoid parking on the grass of our Church property and please be courteous and respectful of our neighbors' property. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

+ **THE JOY/JR. GOYA AND GOYA VISITATION TO THE GREEK AMERICAN REHABILITATION CENTER** will be on Monday, April 24th. We will gather on the first floor at 5:30 p.m. and visit the residents on each floor singing "Christos Anesti", followed by a fellowship dinner.

+ **PHILOPTOCHOS "FILL THE BAG" PROJECT**- On Bright Saturday, April 22nd at 10 a.m. at Ascension, we will be assembling bags for the Annunciation Feed the Hungry Program. We are asking for donations of Band-Aids (60 Count), Granola Bars, Chapstick, apples and clementines. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated to offset the costs of providing an additional to-go lunch. Please make checks payable to: Ascension Philoptochos and mark "Lenten Project" in the memo. Donations are needed by April 17<sup>th</sup> and may be placed in the box in fellowship hall labeled "Fill the Bag" -- except for the fresh fruit, which can be dropped off on Friday or Saturday, April 21st or 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please contact Kathie Rutkowski at 847-421-8267 with questions.

+ **FEED THE HUNGRY" PROGRAM @ ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL** - Our Philoptochos will "Feed the Hungry" on Tuesday, April 25th at the Annunciation Cathedral in Chicago. We are planning to feed 150+ hungry men and women, most of who are homeless. Please contact Kathie Rutkowski @ 847-421-8267, to volunteer or donate. Philoptochos will also be distributing the filled bags from the "Fill the Bag" program to everyone being fed that day.

+ **HOCKEY MANIA WINNER UPDATE** for week 14: Bob Mantzoros, who won \$25.00. Congratulations!

+ **THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 7<sup>th</sup>.** Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important meeting immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

+ **JR. OLYMPICS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND:** Team Ascension is currently recruiting players and coaches! More information is available on the youth pages of our website; or, contact Esther Tegel at [etegel2@gmail.com](mailto:etegel2@gmail.com) with questions and interest.

+ **SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2017 ASCENSION GOLF OUTING!** The Koinonia Men's Ministry will be hosting the annual Ascension Golf Outing and Family Dinner on Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Deerfield Golf Course. Registration will open soon on our website. Stay tuned!

+ **ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR EMAIL BLASTS?** In addition to print materials like the bulletin and newsletter, Ascension also communicates Parish updates via email. If you are not on our email list, please visit the homepage at [www.ascensiongoc.com](http://www.ascensiongoc.com) and follow the prompts to sign up. You can also follow Ascension on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/AscensionGOC](http://www.facebook.com/AscensionGOC)); and, Twitter (@Ascension\_GOC)!

+ **WEEKLY "SANCTUARY VIGIL LIGHT" DONATIONS** may be offered for the health of individuals, family members or in memory of departed loved ones. A \$75.00 donation for each week's vigil lights is requested. Names will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin. Call the Church Office to reserve your week.